

II. Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph after the title on page 1 of the English Translation:

-- CROSS REFERENCE

This application is a United States national phase application of co-pending international patent application number PCT/JP03/00316, filed January 16, 2003, which claims priority to Japanese patent application number 2002-9218, filed January 17, 2002 which priority is claimed. --

Please replace the first full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

-- According to this aspect of the invention, by providing the small diameter section which is capable of insertion into external containers, the housing apparatus may be transferred between containers including containers set in a constant temperature, while accommodating the carrier to draw/discharge liquids such as various reagents, suspensions, and the like accommodated in the respective containers, so that reacting, washing, temperature control, separating, mixing, pipetting, clarifying, isolating, eluting, and extracting can be performed. Therefore, a series of processes may be [reduced] converted to the transferring process between containers so as to simplify the control. --

Please replace the third full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on page 16 with the following amended paragraph:

-- FIG. 2(a) and (c) show an example of a carrier housing section [30] 32 according to a second embodiment. --

Please replace the fourth full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on page 16 with the following amended paragraph:

-- The carrier housing section [30] 32 is approximate cylindrical having approximate three steps accommodating the spherical carrier 11 inside. The carrier housing section [30] 32 has a

fluid inlet/outlet 36, and is fitted to a nozzle section 38 of a drawing/discharging section which draws and discharges a fluid with respect to the carrier housing section [30] 32, passing through the inlet/outlet 36. Moreover it is possible to transfer the inlet/outlet 36 of the carrier housing section [30] 32 relatively with respect to a container (not shown) provided outside, by a transferring section (not shown). - -

Please replace the first full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on page 19 with the following amended paragraph:

- - FIG. 4 illustrates a case where a process is performed in which DNA is extracted from cells using a carrier housing/processing apparatus having carrier housing sections 13 and [30] 32 accommodating various carriers 11, 31, 57, 58, 59, and 60. - -

Please replace the second full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on page 19 with the following amended paragraph:

- - FIG. 4 (a) shows a case where the spherical carrier 11 is accommodated in the carrier housing section 13 as described above. FIG. 4 (b) shows a case where a ribbon carrier 57 is accommodated in the carrier housing section [30] 32. The ribbon carrier 57 is a wire like member which is not deformed unless a certain degree of force is applied, and is bent in a shape so as not to pass through the small diameter section 20, that is the inlet/outlet 12, and is held in the carrier housing section [30] 32 by self-weight. - -

Please replace the third full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on the bottom of page 21 and top of page 22 with the following amended paragraph:

- - In step S5, in a state with the spherical carrier 11 absorbing the washed DNA accommodated therein, the carrier housing section 13 is further transferred relatively with respect to the region where various containers are mounted, to a container 18 accommodating an [eluate] eluation. The small diameter section 20 is then inserted into the container 18, and the drawing and the discharging are repeated so as to elute the DNA captured by the spherical carrier 11 into the [eluate] eluation. Here, the [eluate] eluation is performed, for example using milliQ or TE (Tris-EDTA) buffer solution. Then, the DNA dehydrated in step S4 is re-hydrated

and dissolved. At the same time, the silica surface becomes a state where there is no chaotrope ions and is easier to be hydrated. Since originally the interaction between the DNA and the silica is more than a little, it is more effective if the elution is performed while increasing the temperature, or mixing. - -